

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
PRESIDENT'S FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY BOARD

20 July 1976

Dear George:

I am grateful to you for the detailed information conveying the progress in connection with the competitive analysis for this year's NIE on Soviet Strategic Forces as well as the additional three subjects selected for a similar experimental effort. The Board will be meeting in two weeks and I know they will be delighted that this has proceeded as well and as rapidly as you have indicated. I had occasion to talk to Bob Ellsworth in an entirely different connection and I was pleased that he conveyed to me his enthusiasm for this experiment.

After swearing in the new Board, the President strongly suggested that we address our attention to intelligence needs and directions for the next five to 10 years. If the members agree at the next meeting of PFIAB, we will be devoting much of our attention during the next six months to this subject. You have been among those who have felt that analysis needs to be strengthened and I think that we may learn some of the requirements and techniques useful in doing just that as a by-product of this experiment. I think it is quite clear that it would be both excessively costly and unwise to subject all NIEs and clearly impossible to involve competitive teams in the bulk of the analytical function yet the limited experiment you are proceeding with may well teach us some things useful in improving non-competitive analytical efforts.

With my deep regards.

Sincerely,



Leo Cherne
Chairman

The Honorable George Bush
Director of Central Intelligence
Headquarters Building , Rm 7D60
Washington, D. C. 20505

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

Routing Slip

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Remarks:

Executive Secretary